(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 28 July 2005 (28.07.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/068138 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: G05B 49/418, 19/42 B25J 9/16,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/SE2005/000043

- (22) International Filing Date: 14 January 2005 (14.01.2005)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 0400091-5

16 January 2004 (16.01.2004) SB

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ABB AB [SE/SE]; Kopparbergsvägen 2, S-721 83 Västerås (SE).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): FORTELL, Håkan [SE/SE]; Julrosvägen 8, S-722 46 Västerås (SE). JO-HANSSON, Sven-Erik [SE/SE]; Släggkastargatan 3, S-722 41 Västerås (SE). LINDSTRÖM, Sven-Erik [SE/SE]; Ragnar Lodbroks Väg 48, S-723 55 Västerås (SE).
- (74) Agent: ABB AB; Legal & Compliance / Intellectual Property, Forskargränd 8, S-721 78 Västerås (SE).

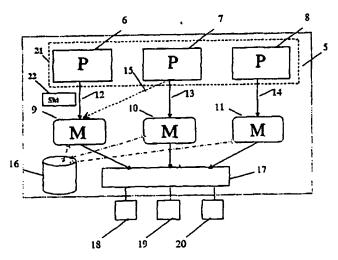
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated. for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL. PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GO, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazene.

(54) Title: CONTROL SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR SYCHRONIZING SEVERAL ROBOTS.



(57) Abstract: A control system (5) for controlling the movements of a plurality of mechanical units (1,2,3), comprising a program means comprising a plurality of mechanical unit programs (6.7,8), each comprising movement instructions for at least one of said mechanical units. The control system further comprises a plurality of path planners (9,10.11) and at least one of the path planners is adapted to receive instructions from more than one of said mechanical unit programs and on basis thereof determine how the mechanical units should move in order to synchronize their movements. The control system further comprises switching means (22) adapted to switch a mechanical unit program from one path planner to another, whereby the movements of the mechanical units are synchronized when their mechanical unit programs are connected to the same path planner and the movements of the mechanical units are independent when their mechanical unit programs are connected to different path planners.

2005/068138 A